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experts in charge of the various items of industrial concerns enumerated in the answers aforesaid ?

(ii) Will the Government be pleased to state the amounts spent by the Government in 1094 and 1095 in respect of each of such industrial concerns ?

(iii) Will the Government be pleased to state if all those industrial concerns are even now worked ?

(iv) If not, will the Government be pleased to state those that were stopped, the date of stopping the same and the reason for their discontinuance ?

(v) If any of those items were discontinued as being impracticable under existing conditions, will the Government be pleased to enquire as to who was responsible for spending money upon such items and to take steps to have such money refunded ?

15. (i) Is it a fact that the Government propose to increase court fees, process fees, copying fees, stamp duty and fees for the registration of documents ?

Answer.

Bamboo Depot, Alwaye:—The Depôt has worked for only six months and a half and the total value of goods produced is Rs. 443.

Oil Factory:—One still was installed on 5th Karkadakam 1095, and two more stills are about to be installed. The value of oil produced before the 1st Chingam 1096 was Rs. 92 and during Chingam 1096 was Rs. 201.

Shellac Industry:—The industry is still in an experimental stage, and is mainly confined to the rearing of insects. All the lac produced has been utilised for breeding purposes and hence there has been no income.

Jaggery Factory, Tiruvalla:—The necessary machinery has been received; but work cannot commence in the factory until the beginning of the next sugar-cane season in December.

Apiculture :—Honey was first extracted in the last month of 1095 and the value realised was Rs. 18.

(ii) No amount was spent in 1094, as the above industries were started only towards the latter part of 1095. The amounts spent during 1095 are noted below :—

	Rs.
Shellac Industry ...	1,478
Weaving Depôt, Eraniel ...	4,724
Oil Factory ...	6,785
Jaggery Factory, Tiruvalla ...	7,130
Screwpine Depôt, Mavelikara	1,478
Apiculture ...	1,312
Bamboo Depôt, Alwaye ...	2,288

The expenditure incurred is largely non-recurring, being the initial outlay on account of machinery and equipment.

(iii) All the above concerns are now working excepting the Jaggery Factory, Tiruvalla, which is awaiting the sugar-cane season to commence work.

(iv) No concerns were stopped as being impracticable, but the concessions offered to a Bombay Firm for pencil manufacture at Alwaye are being withdrawn, as the firm has failed to carry out its contract with Government in regard to the opening of the factory. The question of starting a Government Pencil Factory is under consideration.

(v) In regard to the Pencil Factory at Alwaye, the firm is being called upon to refund the loss incurred by Government on account of its default.

Secretary Mr. K. Narayanan Pandalay.

15. (i) The Government propose to increase the rates of process fees and copying fees. They are at present unable to make any statement with regard to court fees, stamp duty and registration fees.

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(ii) In view of the fact that these sets of revenues are derived mostly from people who own lands, will the Government be pleased to reconsider their proposal ?	(ii) Process fees and copying fees are in reality payments for services and supplies in the shape of stamp paper and labour rendered by the copyist and process server establishments. The cost of services and supplies and of labour has increased. It has consequently been proposed to raise the existing rates of these fees. The revised rates do not, in any of the cases now proposed to be revised, exceed the corresponding rates levied in the adjoining tracts.
(iii) Will the Government be pleased to consider the advisability of raising additional revenues (if need be) by taxing incomes not derived from land and by imposing new export duties and raising the present rate of export duties, with a view to avoid taxing the agriculturist any further ?	(iii) The questions of taxing non-agricultural incomes and the levy and revision of export duties are under consideration.
(iv) Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in connection with increase of taxation, they have considered the margin between the present income and expenditure of the average ryot in Travancore and satisfied themselves that the ryot can stand any further taxation ?	(iv) (v) & (vi). The Government do not consider that an enquiry of the kind is called for at present. An economic survey would be more appropriate in connection with re-settlement.
(v) If they have, will the Government be pleased to state the result of their enquiry and the facts elicited thereby ?	
(vi) Will the Government be pleased to appoint a Committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into and report upon the present economic condition of the people and to suggest ways of increasing taxation (if such increase is found necessary) without letting such enhanced taxes fall on land, either directly or indirectly ?	
Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai.	*Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.*
16. (*a*) Will the Government kindly lay on the table a copy of all the agreements entered into with the English firm of Messrs. Macmillan and Co., and of those entered into with the English firm of Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co., for the supply of vernacular text books for use in the schools in Travancore State ?	16. (*a*) Copies of the agreements are placed on the table.
(*b*) How were these vernacular text books prepared or compiled ? Was it by an Editorial Committee or any other body in Travancore ? Who appointed them, who fixed their remuneration and who paid it ? What was the remuneration ?	(*b*) The books published by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., were first compiled by an Editorial Committee of six members appointed by the Government. The remuneration to the members of the Editorial Committee was fixed by the Government at Rs. 900 each and was paid by the firm. The books published by Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co., were compiled by the persons selected by them. The persons selected, the manuscripts and the prices, were approved by the Director of Public Instruction. Remuneration was paid by the firm to the persons selected. The amount of the remuneration paid to these persons is not known.

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